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7.—*The Medical Missionary in China. A Narrative of Twenty Years' Experience.* By WILLIAM LOCKHART, F. R. C. S., F. R. G. S. 8vo. London: Hurst and Blackhurst.

THIS account of the attempt to conquer the prejudices of the Chinese against foreigners, by the benevolent ministrations of a hospital under the care of regularly educated physicians, is quite interesting, though full of technicalities and very ill arranged. It gives minute accounts of the skill of the Chinese in manufactures, and their ignorance of medicine. The latter seems incredible, when we read that a Celestial Humane Society knows no better way of resuscitating a drowned man than to lay a pot — such as is commonly used to boil rice in — over his abdomen, in the expectation that the emptiness of the pot will react upon the distention of the abdomen so that the water swallowed will be discharged at the nostrils. The details of Chinese cruelty and treachery are numerous and very painful. We regret to find that the American merchants are considered as equally responsible with the English for the evils of the opium trade. The hospital seems to have been very successful, both in freeing the natives from disease and in preparing them to receive Christianity; but we have strong doubts of the propriety of making attendance at the chapel a condition of relief at the dispensary.

8.—*The Law of Nations considered as Independent Political Communities.—On the Rights and Duties of Nations in Time of Peace.*

— By TRAVERS TWISS, D. C. L., Regius Professor of Civil Law in the University of Oxford, and one of her Majesty's Counsel. Oxford: At the University Press. 1861. 8vo. pp. xxiii. and 378.

THE earliest, and without doubt the ablest, systematic treatise on international law in the English language is the work of our distinguished countryman, the late Henry Wheaton. Since the publication of his "Elements," numerous works on the subject have appeared in England, among which are the esteemed writings of Phillimore, Manning, and others; and we have now before us the first part of a comprehensive treatise, apparently designed to be a text-book for instruction in the science, as well as an authoritative statement of the principles applicable to the various questions which may arise between nations. The portion now published is divided into twelve chapters, and relates exclusively to the sources of the law of nations, and to the rights and duties of independent states during a time of peace. In the first five chapters we have an inquiry into the characteristics of nations considered as the subjects of law, with a statement of the modifications of

national life, especially as exhibited in the complex state-systems of Christendom and in the dependencies of the Ottoman empire, together with a minute examination of the various sources to which the law of nations may be traced. The last seven chapters comprise an exposition of the rights of self-preservation, acquisition, possession, and jurisdiction, which are essential to every independent state, and of the rights of the sea, of legation, and of treaty which each state may likewise enjoy. In dealing with these topics, Mr. Twiss, as might have been anticipated, is a strenuous advocate of the opinions maintained by the English publicists and statesmen, though he endeavors, whenever it is possible, to fortify his positions by the authority of Continental and American writers. Like most Englishmen, he finds it utterly impossible to understand our institutions ; and when he has occasion to treat of purely American questions, he commits very serious blunders. Thus he gravely asserts that the distinguishing feature of the Constitution of 1787, as compared with the Articles of Confederation, is "the consolidation of the executive power in the hands of a President." But if he had taken the trouble to compare the two instruments, he would very soon have perceived other and far more important differences between them ; — that the Articles were entered into by the States acting as such, while the Constitution was ordained and established by the people, and derives none of its powers from the States ; that under the one there was no authority for the establishment of a judiciary, while under the other a judicial department was expressly provided for ; in a word, that while the one was merely a continuous league, the other created a government capable of exercising all the functions which appertain to the legislative, executive, and judicial departments under a republic. Again, he says that "the States of North America which compose the Federal Union are all Sovereign States." But if he had considered the subject a little more thoroughly, he would have seen that the States are nowhere recognized in the Constitution as "sovereign," that some of the most essential rights of sovereignty are expressly denied to them, and moreover that many of the powers vested in Congress and in the President are utterly irreconcilable with the idea of State sovereignty. It is also worthy of notice, that Mr. Twiss interpolates into his chapter on "National State-Systems of Christendom" an account of the so-called Southern Confederacy, which must have been written less than four months after the election of a provisional President, and in which he makes no reference whatever to the fact that this "Confederacy" has not been recognized by the government to which it stands in an attitude of rebellion, nor by any of the European powers. A writer who thus permits his personal wishes to influence his state-

ment of facts to the extent of suppressing all reference to the most important circumstances of a case under treatment, can scarcely be regarded as a trustworthy guide in respect to any controverted views; but the hostile spirit in which this part of Mr. Twiss's work is composed is only too characteristic of the temper with which English writers and speakers have dealt with the history of the rebellion. Readers on this side of the Atlantic will not, however, be much surprised at Mr. Twiss's haste to recognize the rebels as forming a "national state-system," nor at his designating Mr. Justice Marshall as "Lord Chief Justice," for a knowledge of American institutions is not among his qualifications for writing an authoritative treatise on international law. With this exception, his treatment of his subject presents nothing which demands our special notice.

9.—*The Rebellion Record: a Diary of American Events, with Documents, Narratives, Illustrative Incidents, Poetry, etc.* Edited by FRANK MOORE, Author of "Diary of the American Revolution." With an Introductory Address on the Causes of the Struggle, and the Great Issues before the Country, by EDWARD EVERETT. First Volume. With Eleven Portraits on Steel, a Colored Map, and Various Diagrams. New York: G. P. Putnam. 1861. Royal 8vo. pp. x. and 750.

THE design of this compilation is a very admirable one, and if it is executed with fidelity, and with a just discrimination in the choice of the materials, the work will form an essential part of every American library. It is too early as yet to write the history of the rebellion; but it is not too early to gather up some record of the events by which its course is marked, and to collect the various official documents which are promulgated from time to time. The materials thus preserved will be of no little importance to the future historian, while they must for the present supply the place of a full and well-digested narrative of the transactions which are daily passing under our immediate notice, or of which we read in the newspapers. There is no one who does not often wish to consult some important document, or to refresh his memory as to some particular occurrence, and every person who has occasion to do this will be glad to have the paper or narrative which he wishes to examine readily accessible, and in some more convenient form than the columns of a daily journal. In carrying out his plan, the editor of the volume before us has divided his work into three parts of unequal length. The first part extends over a hundred and eight pages, and comprises a "Diary of Events" from December 17, 1860,